

Response to question on notice

Questions on Notice Paper No 9

5 September 2025

Question No. 602

Leanne Castley MLA: To ask the Minister for Health

Does the Government have a plan to accommodate the demand for voluntary assisted dying (VAD) after 3 November, which will likely rise over time, given recent experience in other jurisdictions, such as South Australia, demonstrates that the demand for VAD often outpaces supply due to a lack of training, capacity, or willingness on the part of practitioners.

RACHEL STEPHEN-SMITH MLA - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The ACT Government has been working to ensure a viable clinical workforce is available from 3 November 2025 to deliver voluntary assisted dying services. There has been significant and ongoing engagement with health professionals in the ACT.

More than 25 health professionals have completed authorised practitioner training. These are medical practitioners, nurse practitioners and registered nurses. There is no closing date to become a voluntary assisted dying practitioner – health professionals can apply to be an authorised practitioner at any time.

Following the commencement of the scheme, the ACT Government will closely monitor the level of demand for voluntary assisted dying services and the workload on individual practitioners and respond as appropriate.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.



Rachel Stephen-Smith MLA
Minister for Health

Date:

3 / 10 / 25

This response required 55 mins to complete, at an approximate cost of \$115.88

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